



TOM CILMI
Suffolk County Legislator
10th District

For Immediate Release

Date: June 26, 2014

Contact: Maria Barbara
(631) 854-0940 (office)
(516) 457-2573 (cell)
maria.barbara@suffolkcountyny.gov

County to send public hearing notices via email

A bill recently passed by the Suffolk County Legislature requires the Clerk of the Legislature to establish a list of parties interested in receiving email notifications for public hearings and to send those notifications in advance of all public hearings. Public hearings are held for a variety of reasons including all proposed local laws.

Legislator Tom Cilmi, the bill's sponsor said, "The Legislature often holds required public hearings on important regulatory proposals and all too often those who would be impacted are left in the dark. That's not good for our residents, our businesses, or quite frankly, for the law-making process in general."

Up until now, notices of public hearings were only required to be posted in the fine print legal notices in the local newspapers. Cilmi said unless someone is specifically looking for something, those notices often go unseen.

He said, "Business owners don't have time to comb through legal notices searching for anything that could potentially impact their business. Now, any business owner or resident interested in participating in the legislative process or concerned about potential regulation, can sign up to be included on an email list to be notified of all public hearings. Public participation leads to greater transparency, a more informed citizenry and a more inclusive regulatory process."

Anyone interested in receiving notifications should call (631) 853-4074 or email AnnMarie Pastore at: AnnMarie.Pastore@suffolkcountyny.gov